



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

PO BOX 2448, RALEIGH, NC 27602

O 919-890-1000

F 919-890-1915

## Court Date Notifications for Criminal Cases Fact Sheet for Public

*The new Court Date Notifications service at [www.NCcourts.gov/services](http://www.NCcourts.gov/services) allows you to quickly and easily subscribe to up-to-the-minute criminal court date notifications and reminders via email or SMS/text messages. Subscribers are immediately notified of court date changes, as well as upcoming court date reminders seven days and one day in advance of the court date.*

The following information explains the Court Date Notifications system and highlights several key requirements for using the service.

- The Court Date Notifications system is the latest addition to the suite of online services offered as part of eCourts, the larger initiative to modernize the North Carolina court system. The service provides a fast, convenient means of requesting SMS/text or email notifications of criminal court date changes and reminders of upcoming court dates. Notifications went live statewide in October 2018.

### To Subscribe

- Anyone can subscribe to **court notifications for criminal cases only** through the Judicial Branch website at [www.NCcourts.gov/services](http://www.NCcourts.gov/services).
- **In order to subscribe, a user must provide the following requirements:**
  - A valid North Carolina criminal court case number
  - The county in which the case was recorded
  - Valid contact information (email address or cell phone number)
  - Agree to the terms of use
- You may subscribe to notifications for more than one case, however, it must be done individually for each case.
- When subscribing to notifications for a criminal court case, you will receive an initial message asking you to confirm your intent to opt-in. **For both email and SMS/text messages, you must click on the link to confirm.**





- Once opted in for a court case, you will receive a message anytime the criminal court date, room, or session changes. You also will **receive reminder messages seven (7) and one (1) calendar day(s) prior to the scheduled court date.**
- Once you have opted in for notifications on a court case, you will remain opted in until you opt out. If a case is closed/disposed and you have not manually opted out, you will remain subscribed to that case, such that if it is reopened in the future and the court date/time/session is changed, you will resume getting notifications.

### **To Unsubscribe**

- Each message you receive will provide a means of opting out for that case. For emails, click on the unsubscribe link to opt-out from receiving further emails for that case. For SMS/text messages, text STOP at any time to 82483 to globally opt out of all future text notifications about any/all cases from the N.C. Judicial Branch.

### **Terms of Use**

- Email subscribers can view terms of use, privacy, and disclaimer information by clicking on the terms of use link from any email. SMS/text message subscribers can text HELP at any time to 82483 to link to the program terms of use.
- The email address or mobile phone number provided will be part of the subscription record which is not public information and will not be used by the courts for any purposes other than these notifications.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

- **Court notifications are convenience notifications only and not legal notices.** You are responsible for appearing in court on the scheduled date if you are required to do so, regardless of whether you have received any email or text notifications.
- **Notifications for a given case are dependent on the local processes and any data entered in the county courthouse for that case.** If you have any questions regarding your legal rights and obligations, consult a licensed attorney.



### **About N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts**

The N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) is the administrative agency for the N.C. Judicial Branch, providing administrative services to help the North Carolina court system operate more efficiently and effectively, taking into account each courthouse's diverse needs, caseloads, and available resources. Among the many programs and services that it provides to courts statewide, NCAOC uses technology to improve the delivery of services to the public and to provide greater and more convenient access to court personnel.